



My Hospital Is Currently Not Allowing VBAC

By webmaster

Published: Jan 21 2004 - 2:00am

White Papers

My hospital is currently not allowing VBAC and forcing me to have a cesarean; what are my options?

- [Contact ICAN](#) with the name and city/state of the denying hospital, along with the name and contact information of the Nurse-Manager of Labor & Delivery/Birthing unit that is forcing you to have surgery against your will.
- You may choose to present a signed [VBAC Consent Form](#) as proof of your understanding of the benefits and risks involved in childbirth.
- According to the [Patient Care Partnership of the American Hospital Association](#), you have the right to refuse recommended treatment, including a cesarean section. If you refuse a recommendation, alternative treatment should be provided. In this case, a VBAC.
- State you require more time to consider your decision. Ask to postpone the surgery until you have been given adequate time to research your decision thoroughly.
- When labor begins spontaneously, some mothers feel more comfortable laboring in the comfort of their own homes for as long as possible. It may be possible to find a doula or monitrice for labor support.
- It is never too late to change caregivers or birth location. Begin seeking another caregiver or birth location immediately. Even a physician's slightest counter to VBAC may ultimately become a forced cesarean.



- Write a letter to your local television station and/or the editor of your local newspaper, telling them you are being forced to have a cesarean against your will.
- Contact the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists and ask them to reconsider their restrictive VBAC guidelines. Express how denial of care has affected you. Direct your correspondence to:

American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists (ACOG)
Committee for Practice Bulletins
c/o Nancy O'Reilly
409 12th Street Southwest
PO Box 96920
Washington, D.C. 20090-6920
(202)638-5577
(202)484-5107 (fax)
Dr. Benjamin Sachs
Chairperson of the ACOG Committee for Practice Bulletins
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
330 Brookline Avenue, KS 3182
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1/21/2004
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